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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/930,480	08/16/2001	Jens Bohlen	225/50312	9945

7590 10/14/2003

CROWELL & MORING, LLP  
P.O. BOX 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300

EXAMINER

ROSENBERG, LAURA B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3616

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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<b>Interview Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/930,480	BOHLEN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Laura B Rosenberg	3616	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) Laura B Rosenberg. (3) \_\_\_\_  
(2) Mark Neblett. (4) \_\_\_\_

Date of Interview: 02 October 2003.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference  
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.  
If Yes, brief description: \_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) discussed: 1 and 25.

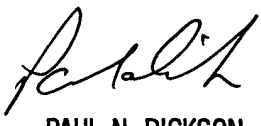
Identification of prior art discussed: Prior art of record.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

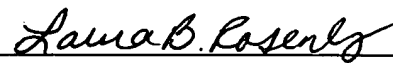
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Mr. Neblett submitted an unofficial proposed amendment with changes to claims 1 and 25 (see attachment). Examiner Rosenberg informed Mr. Neblett that she could not agree to allowable subject matter based on the proposed amendment because the changes to the claims would require a new search.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

  
PAUL N. DICKSON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

  
Examiner's signature, if required

## Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

### Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

#### Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

#### 37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,  
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

#### Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004-2595 • p202 624-2500 • f202 628-5116



**FACSIMILE COVER PAGE**

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**Thank You**

**FAX TELEPHONE NUMBER: (202) 628-5116**

**Date: 9/23/2003 2:12:30 PM**

**To: Examiner L. Rosenberg Phone: 703-305-3135**

**Firm: USPTO, Art Unit 3616**

**Facsimile Telephone Number: 703-746-8122**

**Total Number of Pages (Including Cover Sheet): 2**

**From: Mark Neblett Telephone Number: 202 624-2941**

**Cam Number: 99001.001**

**Message: Examiner Rosenberg -- ☐ ☐ Thank you for your return call this morning. As you suggested, ☐ I have prepared a "discussion draft" of a couple minor amendments we ☐ are considering for a Sec. 1.116 Amendment in case 09/930,480. I ☐ would be happy to briefly discuss what we are trying to achieve with ☐ the amendments at your convenience, at which point you could decide ☐ whether an in-person interview of the case is even needed. ☐ ☐ Thank you for taking a couple minutes to look at this in the midst of ☐ your end of quarter/end of year push! ☐ ☐ Mark Neblett ☐ (202) 624-2941 ☐ Crowell & Moring**

**Draft Amendments for Discussion Purposes Only – Not to Be Entered**

1. (Currently Amended) Steering column for a motor vehicle having a steering shaft rotatably mounted in a tubular jacket,

wherein the tubular jacket is secured in use at a vehicle bodywork end of the tubular jacket on two rails extending substantially in an axial direction of the tubular jacket, the tubular jacket being guided between the rails in the event of an axial displacement of the tubular jacket,

wherein at least one rail is provided with at least one deformation element plastically deformable and secured at least at one end on the respective at least one rail, with absorption of energy, in the event of an axial displacement of the tubular jacket in case of a crash in a manner such that the respective at least one deformation element is deformed by rolling friction via deflector structure fixedly disposed on the tubular jacket.

25. (Currently Amended) Steering column for a motor vehicle comprising:

a tubular jacket,

a steering shaft rotatably mounted in the tubular jacket,

first and second rails extending in an axial direction and secured in use to a vehicle body, said rails guidably supporting a vehicle bodywork end of the tubular jacket for axial movement along an axis of the tubular jacket between the rails,

a plastically deformable deformation element connected to the first rail and the tubular jacket and operable to absorb collision forces resulting during relative axial movement of the tubular jacket and the first rail, and

deflection structure fixed to the tubular jacket and operable to deflect the deformation element with rolling friction during said relative axial movement of the tubular jacket and first rail in response to said collision forces.